















Project coordination



Paolo Viskanic

CEO of R3 GIS

Degree in Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture

Project Coordinator LIFE UrbanGreen





Software company specialized in environmental platforms for smart cities

Team of 20 people, based in Bolzano, South Tyrol, Italy

Operating in Italy, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Finland, Slovenia, Hungary, Taiwan



Vision

Help cities around the world to manage their green infrastructure efficiently and safely to improve the quality of life and help them to adapt to the effects of climate change.



The LIFE URBANGREEN Project





The LIFE programme

European funding instrument to support projects focused on



Environment sub-programme

- Nature and biodiversity
- Environment and resource efficiency
- Environmental governance and information

Climate action sub-programme

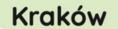
- Climate change mitigation
- Climate change adaptation
- Climate governance and information







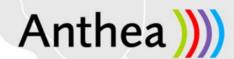








Rimini





€ 2.5 M Total budget € 1.3 M EU contribution

Three main project pillars

RESEARCH



- Leaf transpiration measurements
- Pollutant deposition analysis
- LiDAR survey
- Meteo data analysis
- IOT sensors integration
- Satellite data analysis

SOFTWARE TOOLS



- Ecosystem services calculation
- Meteo data integration
- Smart irrigation tool
- IOT sensors integration
- Improved job planning
- Public portal for citizens

TEST ON PILOT SITES



Test new tools and assess effect of best practices on trees:

- Target pruning
- Irrigation
- Soil decompaction
- Mulching



Sites and species







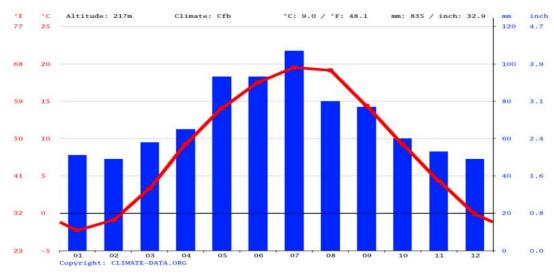


Krakow, Poland

More then 20M m² of public green areas with 140.000 trees, distributed among 4300 sites.

Care and management carried out by ZZM, a department of the City of Krakow, with support of external companies and professionals.

Climate zone Cfb (Koppen)









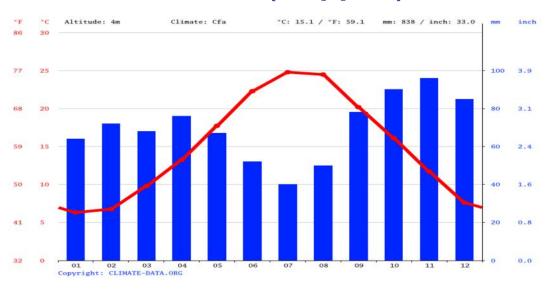


Rimini, Italia

More then 2,5M m² of public green areas with 50.000 trees, distributed among 1000 sites.

Care and management carried out by Anthea, a public owned company of the City of Rimini and 4 other municipalities, with support of external companies and professionals.

Climate zone Cfa (Koppen)



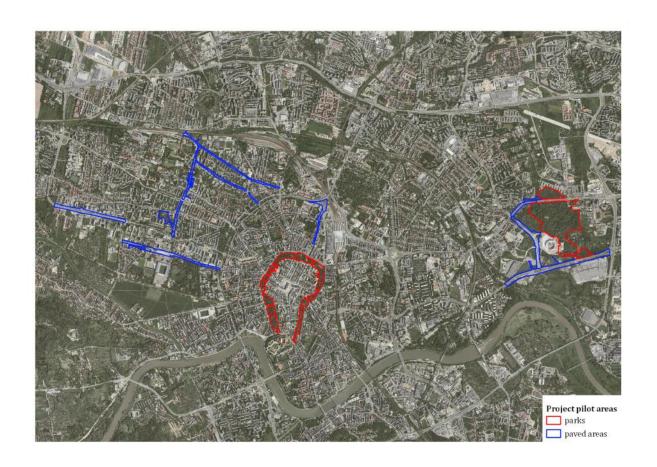
https://en.climate-data.org/europe/italy/emilia-romagna/rimini-1176/#climate-graph



The pilot areas

Kraków (PL): 500 ha

Rimini (IT): 250 ha







The studied species

Kraków (PL): 500 ha







European ash
Fraxinus excelsion



Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*



Little-leaf linden
Tilia cordata



Austrian pine
Pinus nigra





Black poplar
Populus nigra



European white elm
Ulmus laevis



White dogwood
Cornus alba

Rimini (IT): 250 ha



Platano Platanus ×acerifolia



IppocastanoAesculus hippocastanum



Tiglio Tilia ×europaea



Ligustro lucido



Pino domestico



Farnia Quercus robur



Acero americano

Acer negundo



Pioppo nero Populus nigra



Leccio
Ouercus ilex



Lauroceraso Prunus laurocerasus









Taipei, Taiwan

The National Central University of Taiwan decided to participate to the project with its own budget and to use as a pilot site Daan Park in Taipei City.

Main results from Taiwan

The National Central University of Taiwan worked on the effect of typhoons on urban green areas in Taiwan.



Urban Forestry & Urban Greening
Volume 63, August 2021, 127191



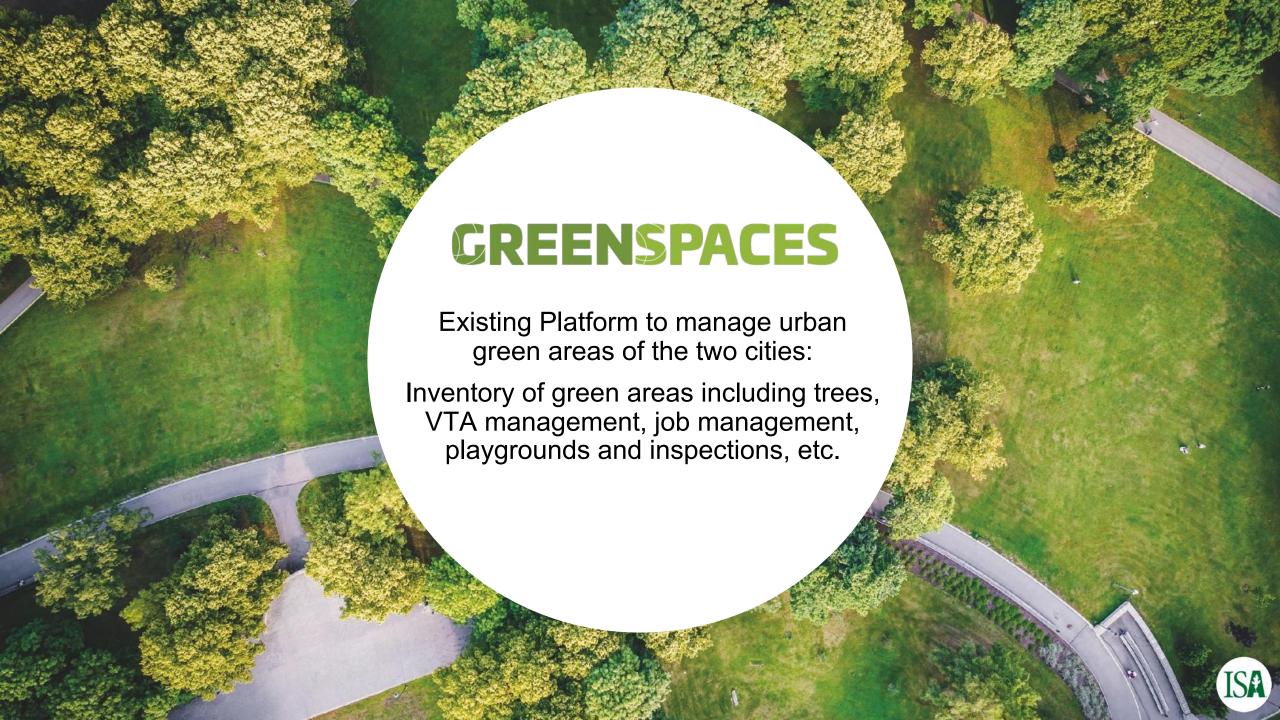
Evaluation of urban greenspace vulnerability to typhoon in Taiwan

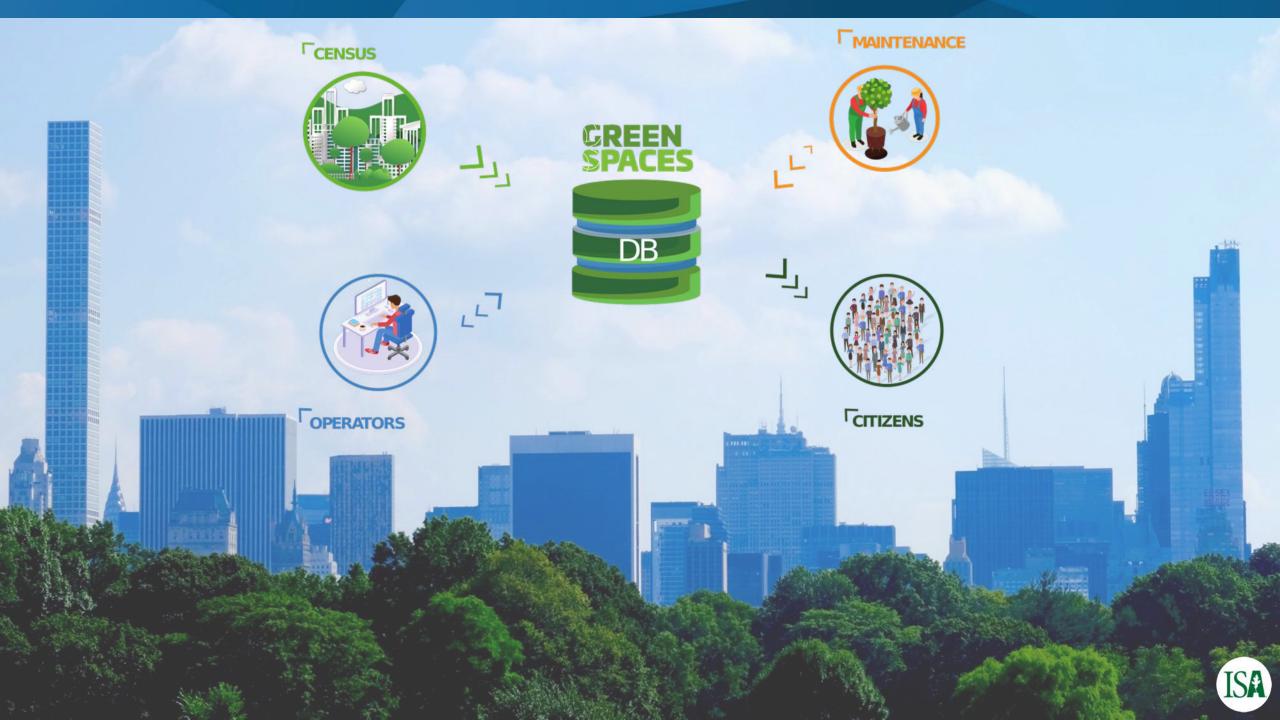
Kim-Anh Nguyen ³, b, c ⊠, Yuei-An Liou ³ ス ⊠, Trong-Hoang Vo ³, b ⊠, Dao Dinh Cham b, c ⊠, Hoang Son Nguyen d, c ⊠



Pre-project situation

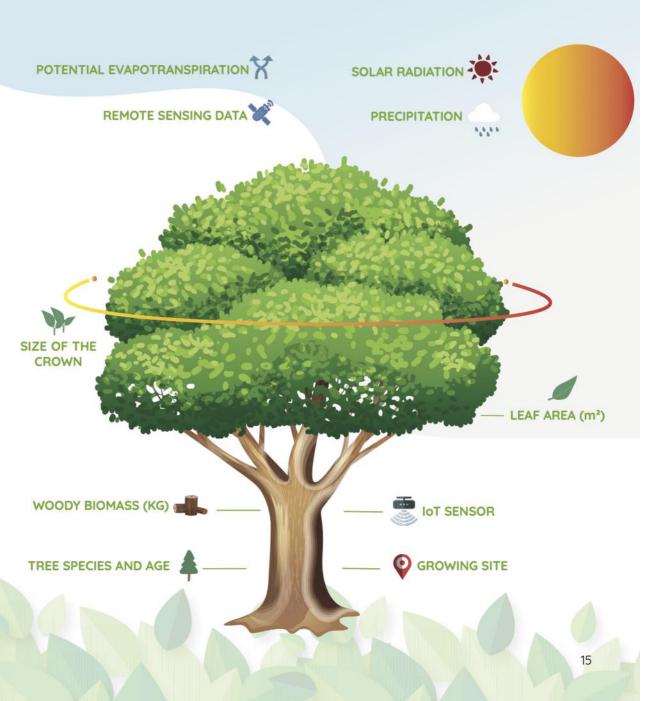






The research part





Scientific activities

Carried out by the two partners University of Milano and ProGea 4D with the support of CISMA.

In this presentation we will concentrate on software developments based on scientific research and tests on pilot sites.

Scientific results will be presented by Alessio Fini

How Trees Improve Cities: CO₂ Uptake, Cooling, Air Quality Amelioration

Wednesday 14/09/2022

Breakout session 1:30 pm - 1:55 pm

Room High Live 2



The software tools developed



Meteo dashboard and severe weather alerts



Weather data management

URBANGREEN

DB

INPUT DATA UBIMET weather data Statistical analysis LIFE GreenSpaces modules weather data

Temperature, Wind speed, Wind Direction, Wind gusts, Rain, Snow, Humidity, Solar radiation Severe Weather alerts

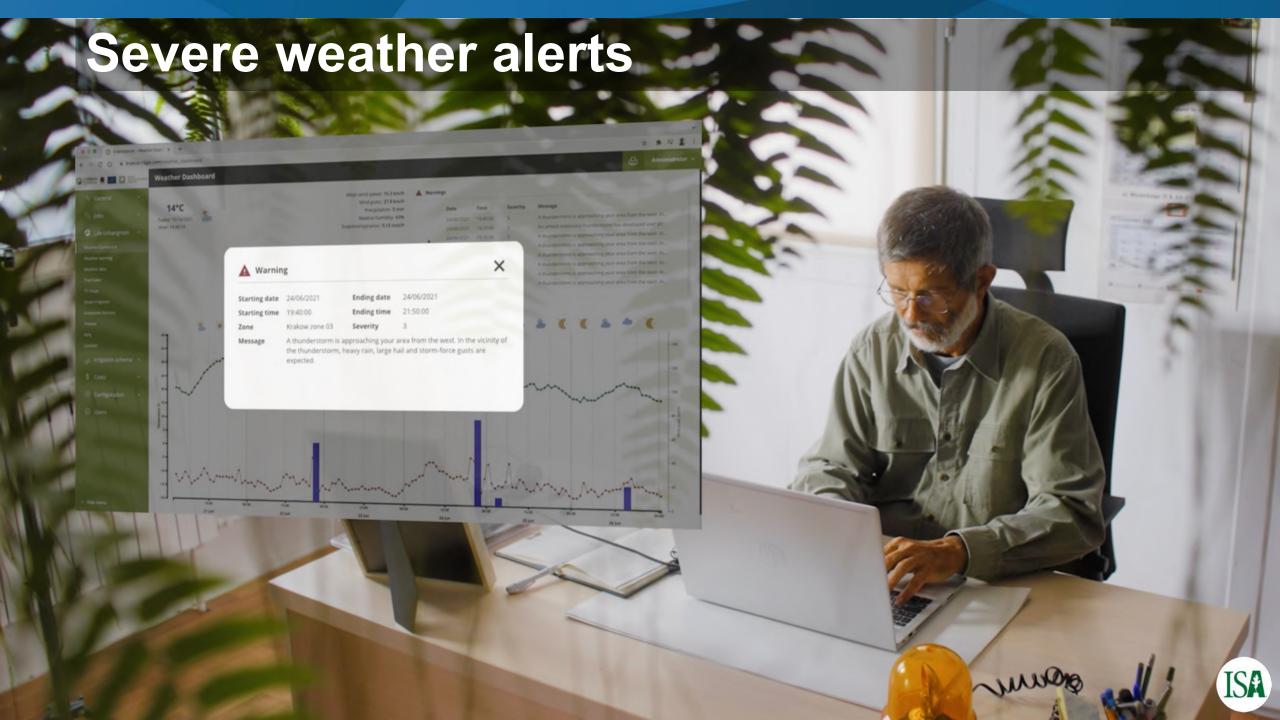
net radiation and ETO:

- o hourly
- o every six hours
- aggregation of weather parameters at city scale:
 - o hourly
 - o every six hours
- weather icon at city scale:
 - o hourly
 - o every six hours

weather dashboard weather data and warning Ecosystem services Smart irrigation





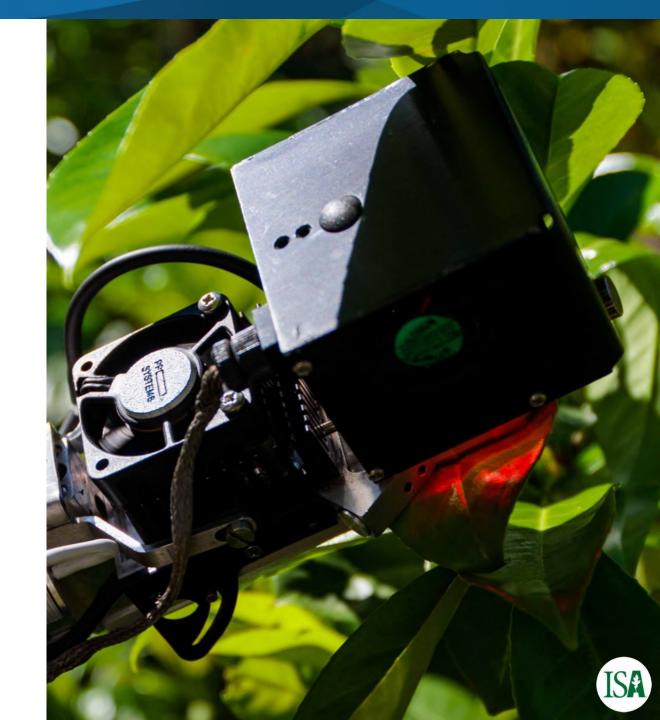


Calculation of benefits of trees



Measurement campaigns

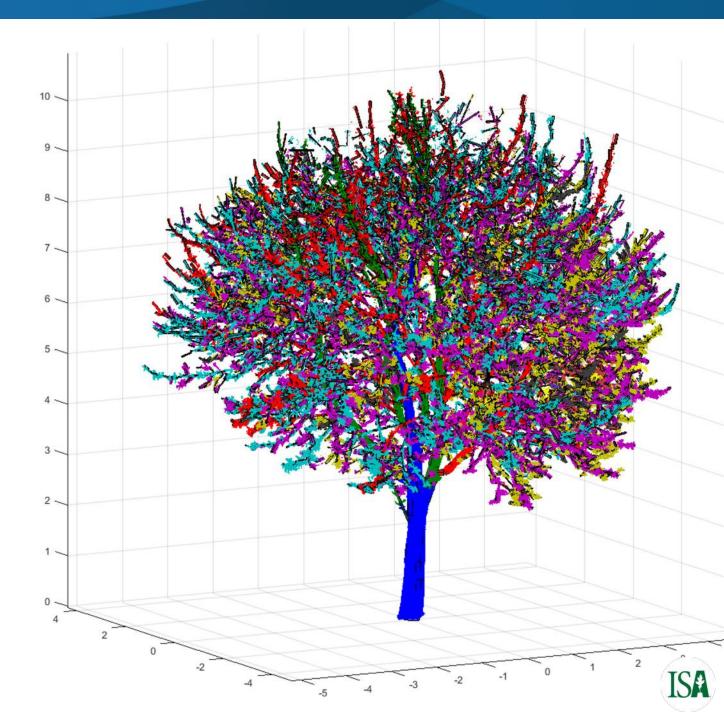
- 500 trees in Rimini and Krakow
- Four growing seasons (2018-2021)
- 17 species (10 Rimini, 10 Krakow, 3 common)
- more than 50% of the tree population of the two cities
- Leaf transpiration was measured to derive CO₂ adsorption and water transpiration
- LAI was measured by means of radiometric method



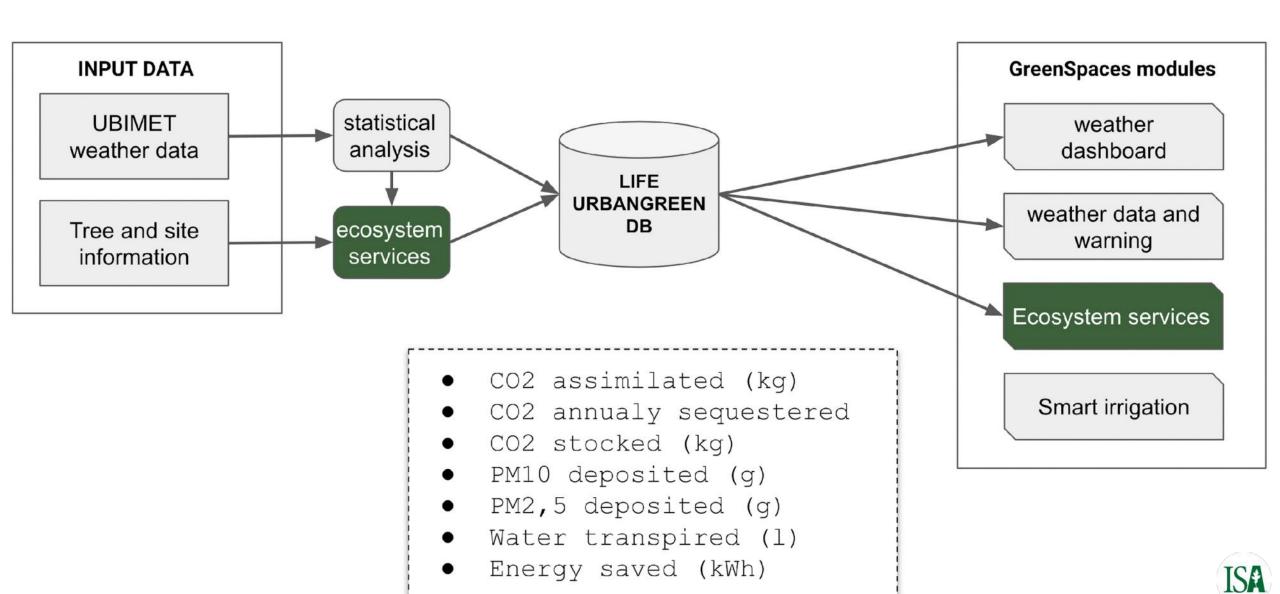
LiDAR TLS surveys

Accurate LiDAR measurement on selected trees was used to derive trunk volume, total leaf area and its distribution at different heights.

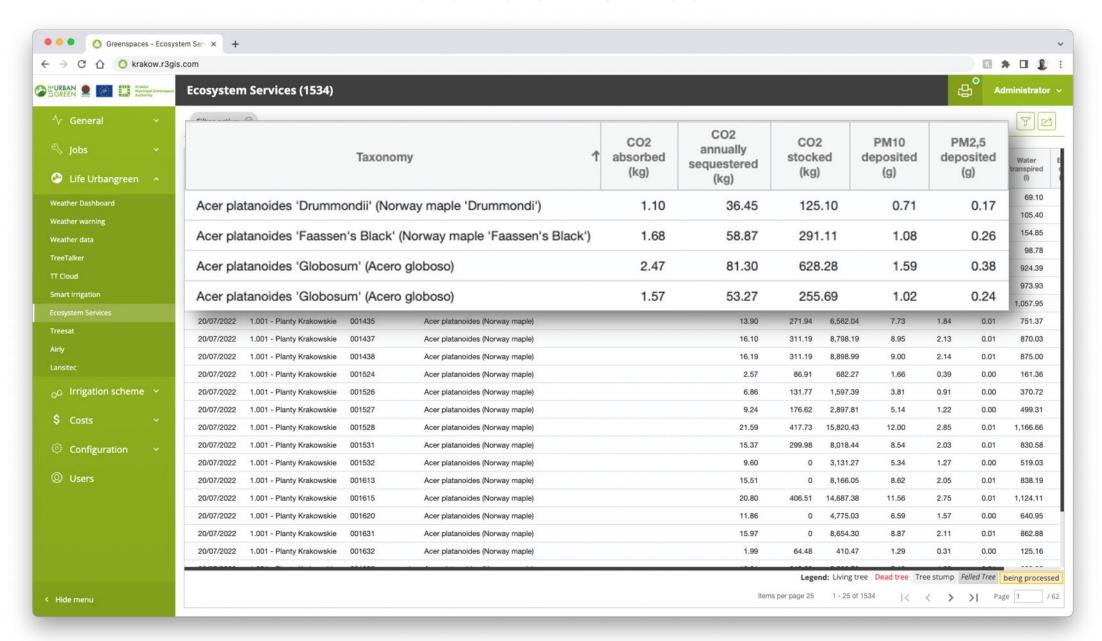
In addition, leaf samples were collected and analyzed in laboratory for deposition of pollutants (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}).



Ecosystem services calculation



Tree benefits





Tree benefits

Benefits extended to other species with similar behaviour:











Description

Norway maple is a native species in Europe, widespread from Spain to Scandinavia. It is a fast-growing deciduous species that can grow up to 25 m tall at maturity and develop a rounded, broad, or pyramidal canopy, depending on the cultivar used. It can live up to 75 years in cities, but the lifespan is often shortened by stress factors, like fungi. Palmate leaves are opposite on shoots and usually have 5 lobes. Some cultivars show permanently or transiently red leaves. The yellowing of leaves during fall is extremely attractive. Flowers are yellow and flowering occurs in April- early May, before the foliation. The fruit is a di-samara, with a broad angle (>120°C) between the samaras.

Grows well in mild shade. It is extremely hardy (up to -40°C) and well adapted to poor and compacted soils in the pH range 5.5-8.0. It is extremely easy to transplant.

Assimilated species

Acer platanoides 'Drummondii'

Acer platanoides 'Faassen's Black'

Acer platanoides 'Globosum'

Acer platanoides 'Princenton Gold'

Acer platanoides 'Royal Red'

Acer platanoides 'Schwedleri' Acer sp.

Acer pseudoplatanus

Acer pseudoplatanus 'Atropurpureum'

Acer pseudoplatanus 'Aureum'

Acer pseudoplatanus 'Erectum'

Acer pseudoplatanus 'Leopoldii'

Acer pseudoplatanus 'Negenia'

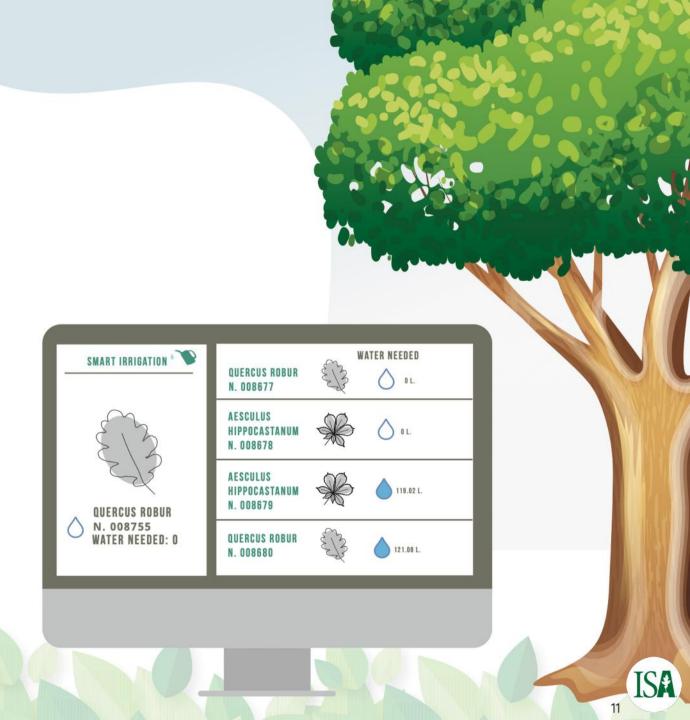
Acer pseudoplatanus 'Purpureum'

Acer pseudoplatanus 'Rotterdam' Acer rubrum

Acer rubrum 'Red Sunset'

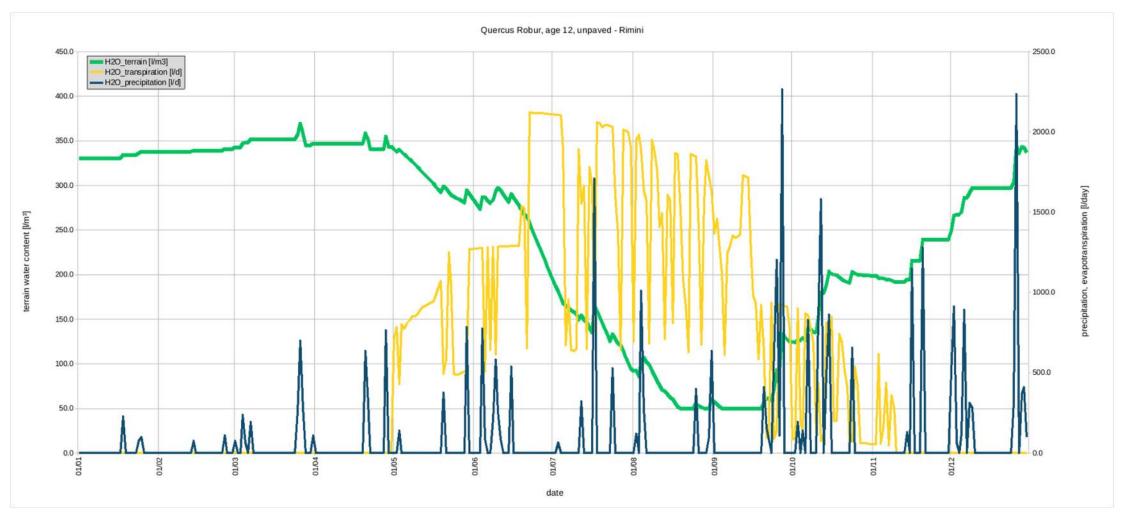


Smart irrigation tool



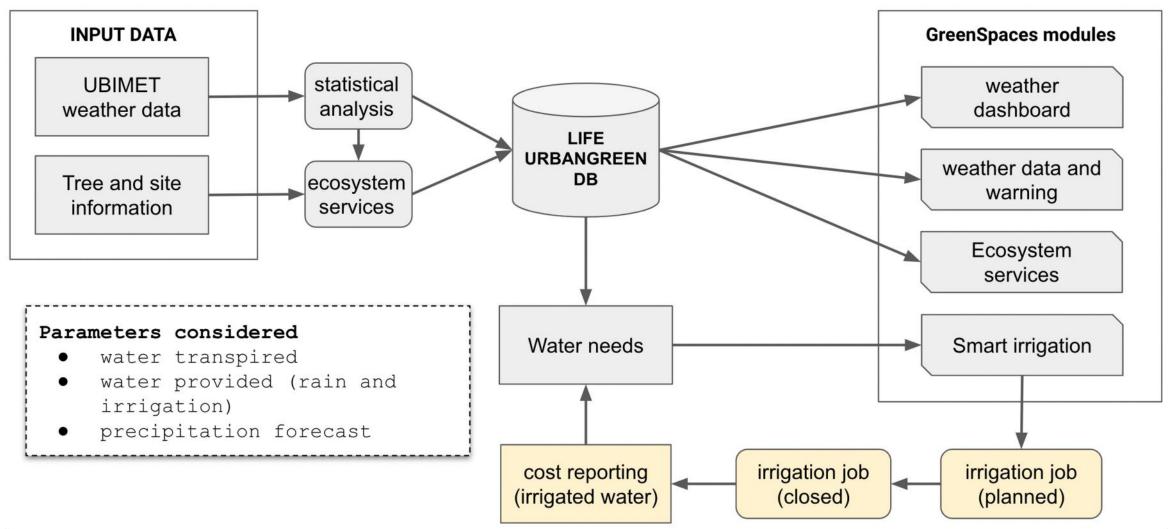
Smart irrigation

With transpiration, precipitation and irrigation GreenSpaces calculates the water available to the tree and when a tree needs water



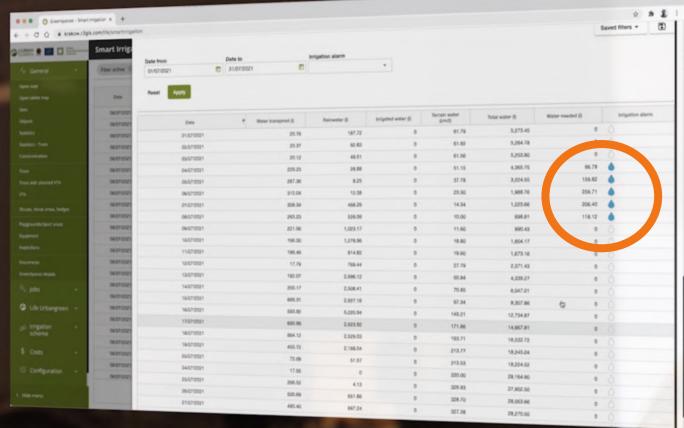


Smart irrigation











Smart irrigation

Based on the calculations of the smart irrigation tool trees are watered and the delivered amount of water is recorded.

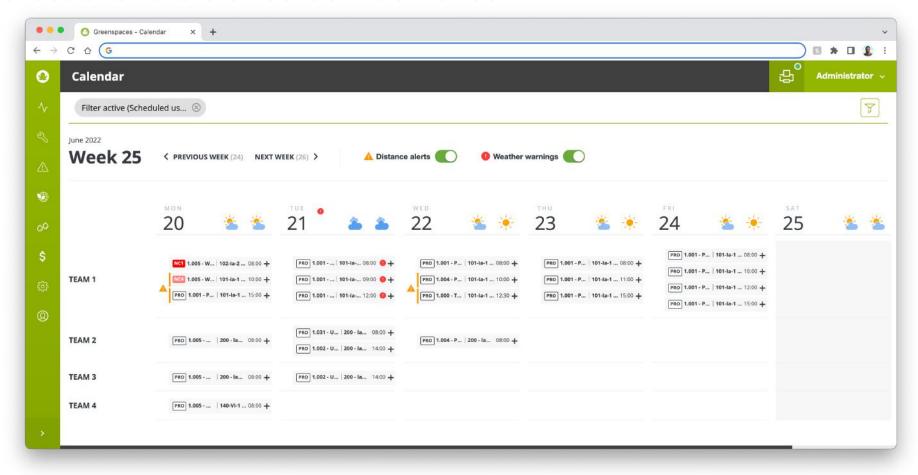


Efficient planning of care and maintenance activities



Smart job scheduling

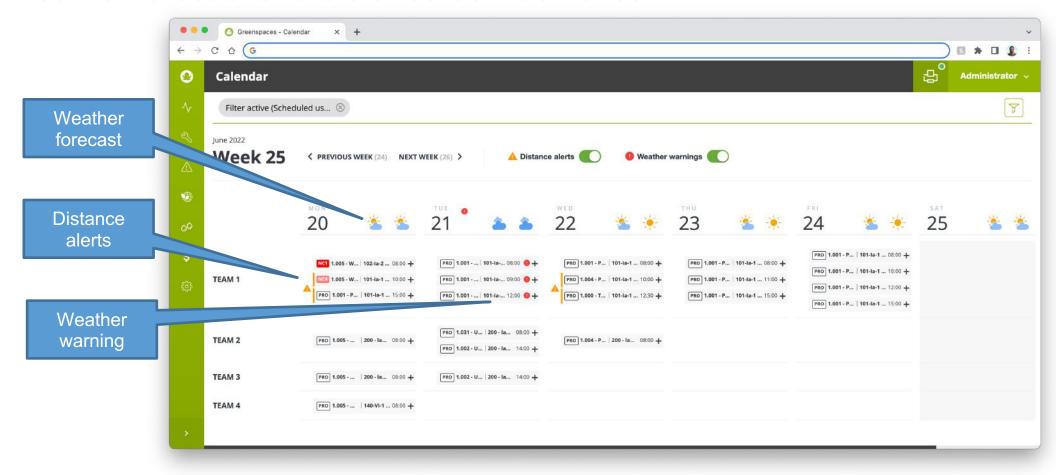
In order to make maintenance more efficient and reduce the carbon footprint, tools have been developed to schedule jobs considering weather forecast and distance between sites.





Smart job scheduling

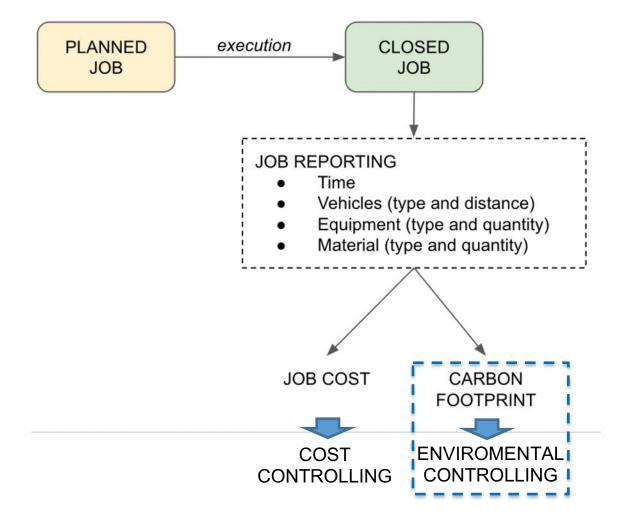
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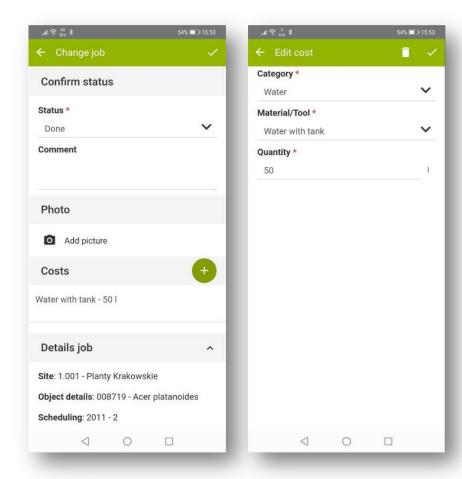




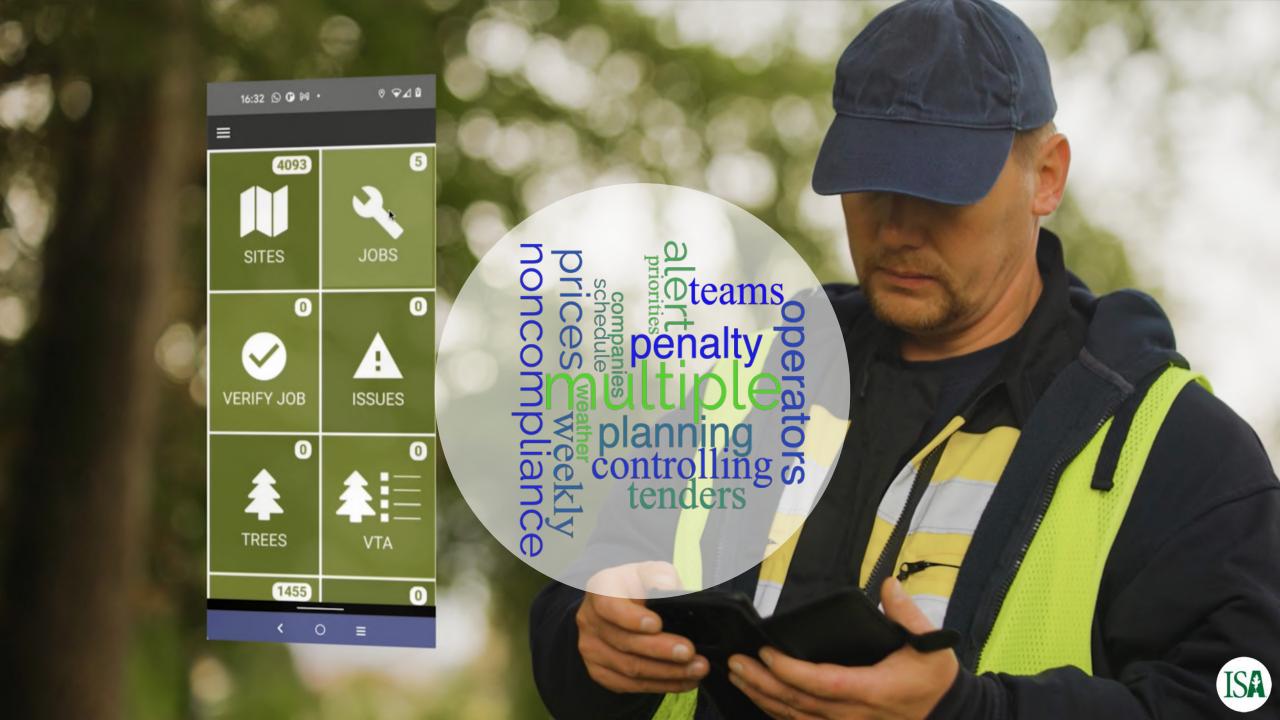
Cost controlling

Tools to record the effort and resources used to close a job and cost controlling by cost center -> reduce carbon footprint









Integration of IOT sensors



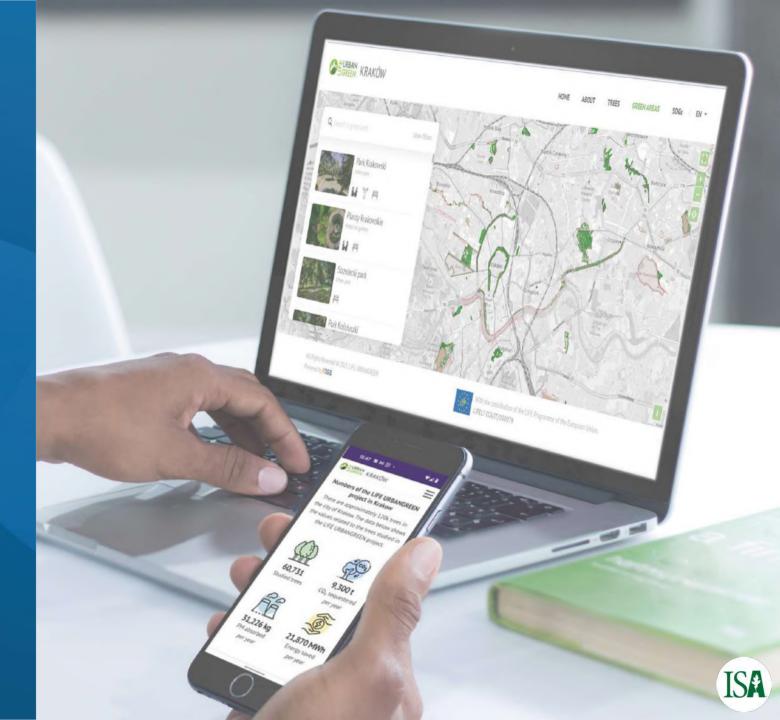
Environmental sensors

Several types of sensors were integrated into GreenSpaces to acquire environmental data and monitor variables as: air temperature, humidity and pollutants, trees radial growth, sap flow, stem position, light passing through the crown, etc.

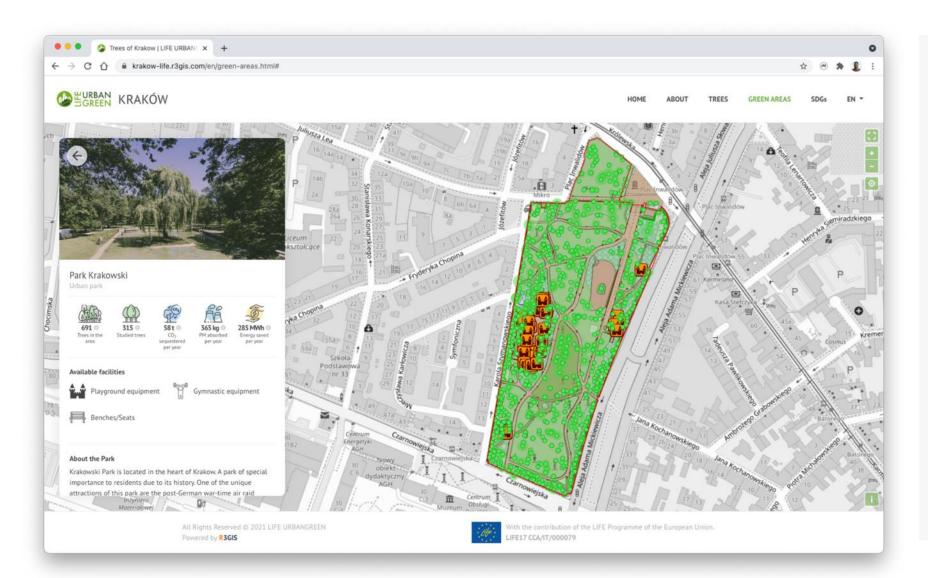
Further activities are under way to use the sensor data to calibrate ecosystem services algorithms.

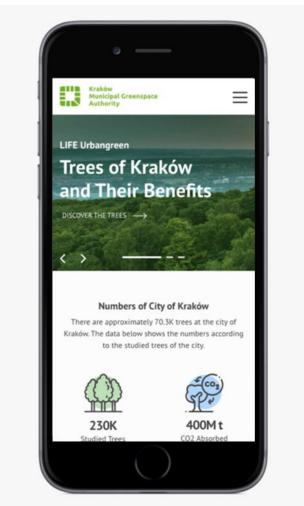


Engagement of citizens



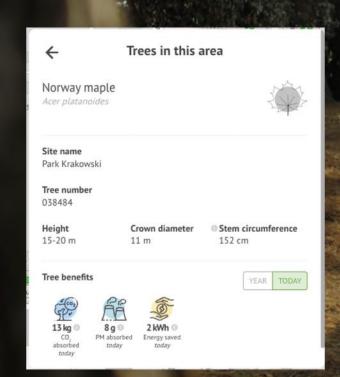
Public portal





Public portal

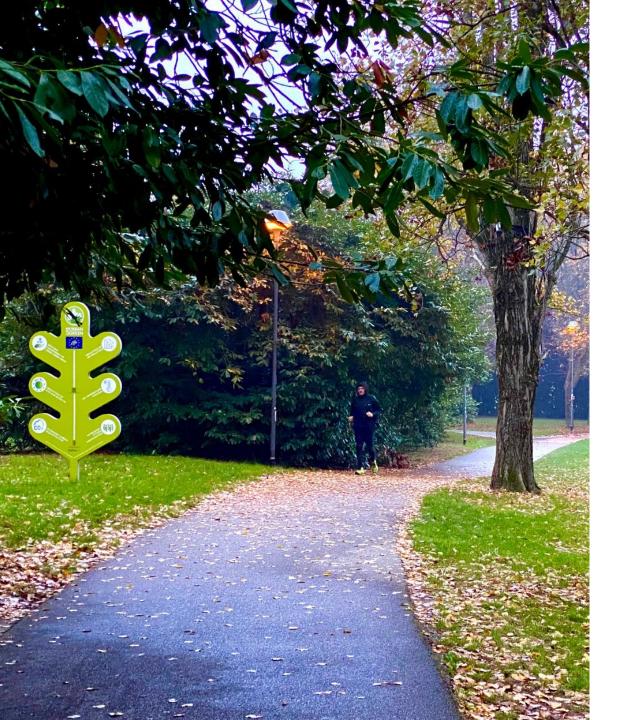
Life update of green area census, tree inventory and ecosystem services on a daily basis.





Testing and demonstration on pilot sites





Pilot and control sites

The study areas in the two cities were divided into Pilot and Control areas.

Similar trees were selected in pilot and control areas and were measured during the first year as a baseline.

In Pilot areas best practices were applied:

- Target pruning, according to ETW standards
- Mulching on trees
- Soil aeration on compacted soil around the trees
- Irrigation to trees according to the smart irrigation module

In control areas trees were treated as usual, without particular attention.

Best practices

In pilot areas best practices were applied to ensure optimal conditions and ecosystem services maximization

TARGET PRUNING (ETW)

MULCHING

TREE IRRIGATION

SOIL AERATION









Best practices

In pilot areas best practices were applied to ensure optimal growing conditions and ecosystem services maximization. Differences in ES provisioning were measured at the beginning of the project and two years after application of the best practices. Average values for all studied species are given.

| City | Rimini (I) | | | Krakow (PL) | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Ecosystem services (pilot vs. control) | 1 st year | 2 years after imposition of treatment | Difference | 1 st year | 2 years after imposition of treatment | Difference |
| CO ₂ assimilation per tree (kg tree ⁻¹ day ⁻¹) | -2,4% | +21,9 | +24,3% | -9,3% | +6,1% | +15,4% |
| PM ₁₀₋₁₀₀ per tree (g tree ⁻¹) | -5,7% | +14,9% | +20,5% | -17,8% | -5,3% | +12,5% |
| PM _{2.5-10} per tree (g tree ⁻¹) | -7,8% | +23,8% | +31,6% | -14,4% | -3,3% | +11,1% |
| PM _{0-2.5} per tree (g tree ⁻¹) | -24,4% | +9,5% | +33,8% | -19,3% | +0,5% | +19,9% |



Outlook and conclusions









Conclusions

- The tools developed have been tested in Rimini and Krakow and are now being applied to other cities.
- Through LIFE URBANGREEN only a few ecosystem services were addressed for a limited number of species. More research is required to extend the algorithms.
- In the Verdevale project we managed to extend measurements to selected shrub and hedge species. We are working on further opportunities.
- Further developments are going on to integrate and make use of IOT sensor data and of remote sensing data.















